

Application No. 09/988,548
Applicant: Bernd LUHMANN et al
Amendment Under 37 CFR §1.111 dated February 23, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of the claims replaces all previous listings of the claims:

Listing of the Claims:

1.-11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously Presented) An adhesive tape which can be bonded to a substrate and thereafter released from the substrate without leaving a residue or damaging the substrate by pulling on the adhesive tape, said adhesive tape comprising:

- a) a backing comprising a foam material, said backing having a thickness of 200-600 μm , and exhibiting a modulus of elasticity of less than 16 MPa; and
- b) self-adhesive composition on one or both sides of said backing, said self-adhesive composition exhibiting a ratio of tear strength to stripping force (peel force) of greater than 1.2:1 at a peel angle of less than 10° from the surface of a bond formed between said adhesive tape and said substrate.

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13. (Previously Presented) The adhesive tape according to claim 12, wherein the foam backing is coated on both sides with self-adhesive composition.

14. (Previously Presented) The adhesive tape according to claim 12, wherein the self-adhesive composition is based on block copolymers.

15. (Previously Presented) The adhesive tape according to claim 14, wherein the block copolymers comprise polymer blocks of vinylaromatic compounds.

16. (Previously Presented) The adhesive tape according to claim 15, wherein the block copolymers further comprise polymer blocks formed by polymerization of 1,3-dienes.

17. (Previously Presented) The adhesive tape according to claim 12, wherein the self-adhesive composition comprises tackifiers, and optionally further blend components and/or additives.

18. (Previously Presented) The adhesive tape according to claim 12, wherein the foam backing has a modulus of elasticity of 4-15 MPa.

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19. (Previously Presented) The adhesive tape according to claim 12, wherein the foam backing has a thickness of 300-550 μm .

20. (Previously Presented) The adhesive tape according to claim 12, which is in the form of sections, wherein one end of each section comprises a non-tacky grip, and an opposite end of each section optionally comprises an adhesive area which decreases in size towards an end of the section.

21. (Previously Presented) The adhesive tape according to claim 20, wherein the non-tacky grip is formed by laminating film section on the self-adhesive composition, wherein the sides of the film sections which contact the self-adhesive composition have been given an anti-adhesive finish.

22. (Previously Presented) A method for bonding an adhesive tape to a substrate and optionally thereafter releasing the adhesive tape from said substrate without leaving an adhesive residue on said substrate, said method comprising the following steps:

- a) applying an adhesive tape according to claim 12 to a substrate so as to form a bond between said adhesive tape and said substrate; and

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- b) optionally releasing said bond by pulling on the adhesive tape.

23. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 22, which further comprises bonding the adhesive tape to a hook, a baseplate or an article to be suspended from said substrate, wherein said bonding of the adhesive tape to said hook, baseplate or article is carried out either before or after the adhesive tape is bonded to said substrate.

24. (Currently Amended) An adhesive tape which can be bonded to a substrate and thereafter released from the substrate without leaving a residue or damaging the substrate by pulling on the adhesive tape, said adhesive tape comprising:

- a) a backing comprising a foam material, said backing having a thickness of 200-600 μm , and exhibiting a modulus of elasticity of less than 16 MPa; and
- b) self-adhesive composition on one or both sides of said backing, said self-adhesive composition exhibiting a ratio of tear strength to stripping force (peel force) of greater than 1.2:1 at a peel angle of less than 10° from the surface of a bond formed between said adhesive tape and said substrate;

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whereby the backing is selected such that the backing would tear if pulled ~~in the absence of said self-adhesive composition~~ by itself with the same ~~stripping~~ force necessary to remove said adhesive tape from said substrate, but the backing does not tear when said adhesive tape is removed from said substrate.

25. (Previously Presented) The adhesive tape according to claim 24, wherein the foam backing is coated on both sides with self-adhesive composition.

26. (Previously Presented) The adhesive tape according to claim 24, wherein the self-adhesive composition is based on block copolymers.

27. (Previously Presented) The adhesive tape according to claim 26, wherein the block copolymers comprise polymer blocks of vinylaromatic compounds.

28. (Previously Presented) The adhesive tape according to claim 27, wherein the block copolymers further comprise polymer blocks formed by polymerization of 1,3-dienes.

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29. (Previously Presented) The adhesive tape according to claim 24, wherein the self-adhesive composition comprises tackifiers, and optionally further blend components and/or additives.

30. (Previously Presented) The adhesive tape according to claim 24, wherein the foam backing has a modulus of elasticity of 4-15 MPa.

31. (Previously Presented) The adhesive tape according to claim 24, wherein the foam backing has a thickness of 300-550 μm .

32. (Previously Presented) The adhesive tape according to claim 24, which is in the form of sections, wherein one end of each section comprises a non-tacky grip, and an opposite end of each section optionally comprises an adhesive area which decreases in size towards an end of the section.

33. (Previously Presented) The adhesive tape according to claim 32, wherein the non-tacky grip is formed by laminating film section on the self-adhesive composition, wherein the sides of the film sections which contact the self-adhesive composition have been given an anti-adhesive finish.

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34. (Previously Presented) A method for bonding an adhesive tape to a substrate and optionally thereafter releasing the adhesive tape from said substrate without leaving an adhesive residue on said substrate, said method comprising the following steps:

- a) applying an adhesive tape according to claim 24 to a substrate so as to form a bond between said adhesive tape and said substrate; and
- b) optionally releasing said bond by pulling on the adhesive tape.

35. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 34, which further comprises bonding the adhesive tape to a hook, a baseplate or an article to be suspended from said substrate, wherein said bonding of the adhesive tape to said hook, baseplate or article is carried out either before or after the adhesive tape is bonded to said substrate.